



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

June 27, 2008

MR. GREGORY MANSKER
CEO
CHICCO USA, INC.
1835 FREEDOM ROAD
LANCASTER, PA 17601

NVS-215
08C-007

SUBJECT: REAR FACING CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS/BASE LATCH

DEAR MR. MANSKER:

This letter serves to acknowledge Chicco USA, Inc.'s notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a defect for the products listed below for which a safety recall campaign shall be conducted pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 30119.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

CHICCO/CORTINA TRAVEL SYSTEMS/9999
CHICCO/KEYFIT/9999
CHICCO/KEYFIT 30/9999

NHTSA Campaign Number: 08C-007

Mfg's Report Date: June 2, 2008

Components: CHILD SEAT:BASE (INFANT)

Potential Number of Units Affected: 18,000

Summary:

CHICCO USA, INC. IS RECALLING APPROXIMATELY 18,000 BASES USED IN KEYFIT AND KEYFIT 30 REAR-FACING CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS AND IN CORTINA TRAVEL SYSTEMS, AND STAND-ALONE BASES FOR THESE SYSTEMS PURCHASED SEPARATELY, THAT WERE MANUFACTURED BETWEEN FEBRUARY 26 AND MARCH 17, 2008. SOME OF THESE BASES HAVE A DEFECT THAT CAN PREVENT THE BASE FROM BEING TIGHTLY SECURED TO A VEHICLE WHEN THE LOWER LATCH ATTACHMENTS ARE USED AS A METHOD OF INSTALLATION. SPECIFICALLY, WHEN A DEFECTIVE BASE IS INSTALLED

WITH THE LOWER LATCH ATTACHMENT STRAPS, THE WEBBING USED TO TIGHTEN THE BASE TO THE VEHICLE SEAT CAN SLIP THROUGH THE ADJUSTMENT LOCK.

Consequence:

IF THE WEBBING WERE TO SLIP DURING A VEHICLE CRASH, THE BASE COULD MOVE, POSSIBLY INCREASING THE RISK OF INJURY.

Remedy:

CHICCO WILL NOTIFY ALL OWNERS OF THE BASES MANUFACTURED DURING THE COVERED PERIOD OF THE DEFECT AND PROVIDE A FREE REPLACEMENT BASE. TO ENSURE THAT THE AFFECTED UNITS ARE REMOVED FROM USE, CHICCO WILL REQUEST THE CONSUMER TO CUT THE LOWER LATCH CONNECTORS FROM THE BASE AND RETURN THEM TO CHICCO IN A PRE-PAID ENVELOPE. CHICCO WILL THEN SEND THE CONSUMER A REPLACEMENT BASE. CAREGIVERS ARE BEING ADVISED THAT THEY CAN CONTINUE TO USE THE OLD BASE WITH THE VEHICLE'S SAFETY BELTS UNTIL THEY RECEIVE A REPLACEMENT. THE RECALL IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN DURING THE WEEK OF JUNE 2, 2008. OWNERS MAY CONTACT CHICCO TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-807-8817.

Notes:

CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

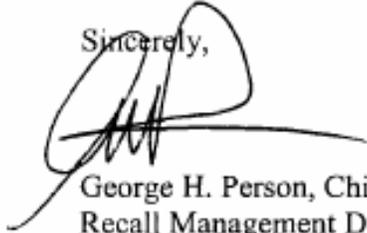
The information in your report appears to satisfy the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6.

We have received Chicco's proposed owner notification letter and it meets the requirements of Part 577. Copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within one month after the close of the calendar quarter in which notification to purchasers occurs. Therefore, the first quarterly report will be due on or before 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Person', with a large, stylized flourish above the name.

George H. Person, Chief
Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

cc: Mr. Kenneth N. Weinstein
Mayer Brown LLP
1909 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006